

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 7,125,584 B2
APPLICATION NO. : 10/697436
DATED : October 24, 2006
INVENTOR(S) : Ito

Page 1 of 2

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Claims 1-3, column 16, lines 16-46, delete claims 1-3 and substitute the following claims 1-3 therefor:

1. A liquid film forming method of dropping a liquid to be spread on a substrate to be processed from a dropping nozzle or dropping nozzles of a dropping unit onto the substrate, and then moving the dropping unit and the substrate relatively while keeping the liquid dropping on the substrate, so as to form a liquid film on the substrate,

wherein the relative movement of the dropping unit and the substrate is composed of straight movement along a file direction in which the dropping unit passes from one end side of the substrate through an upper space over the substrate to the other end side of the substrate, and movement along a rank direction, and

a distance between a dropping start position on the substrate and an edge of the substrate closest to the dropping start position is relatively larger than a distance between a dropping end position on the substrate and an edge of the substrate closest to the dropping end position, and a distance between an end of the liquid film and an edge of the substrate closest to the end of the liquid film gradually decreases from the dropping start position to the dropping end position.

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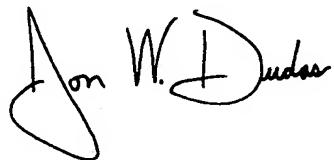
Page 2 of 2

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

2. The liquid film forming method according to claim 1, wherein the distance between the end of the liquid film and the edge of the substrate closest to the end of the liquid film is decided based on a distance that the liquid flows on the substrate after the dropping of the liquid on the substrate.

3. The liquid film forming method according to claim 1, wherein the distance between the end of the liquid film and the edge of the substrate closest to the end of the liquid film is a distance that the liquid flows on the substrate after the dropping of the liquid from the end of the liquid film to the end of the substrate closest to the end of the liquid film.

Signed and Sealed this
Sixteenth Day of January, 2007



JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office